

Nebraska Public Service Commission

COMMISSIONERS:

ANNE C. BOYLE
ROD JOHNSON
FRANK E. LANDIS
TIM SCHRAM
GERALD L. VAP



300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
Post Office Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68509-4927
Website: psc.nebraska.gov
Phone: (402) 471-3101
Fax: (402) 471-0254

NEBRASKA CONSUMER HOTLINE:
1-800-526-0017

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
MICHAEL G. HYBL

Received & Inspected

SEP 27 2012

FCC Mail Room

September 25, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th Street, SW
Washington DC 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite #200
Washington, DC 20036

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 10-90, Annual State Certification of Support for
Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, the Nebraska Public Service Commission hereby certified to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company that the telecommunications carriers included in this letter are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission certifies for the carriers listed, all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within Nebraska, was used in the preceding calendar year of 2011, and will be used in the coming calendar year of 2013, only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹

Check ☒ if list of certified carriers is attached.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sue Vanicek
Director, Nebraska Universal Service Fund

Contact Phone Number: (402) 471-0264

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a) ("Certification. States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission, stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. High-cost support shall only be provided to the extent that the State has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section")

Federal High Cost Support – Study Area by Carrier
Attachment to Nebraska Commission Order 9/25/2012

SEP 27 2012

FCC Mail Room

| <u>COMPANY NAME</u> | <u>STUDY AREA CODE (SAC)</u> |
|--|---|
| Allo Communications, LLC | 379010 |
| Alltel Communications of Nebraska, Inc. | 379013 |
| Arapahoe Telephone (ATC Communications) | 371516 |
| Arlington Telephone Company | 371517 |
| Benkelman Telephone Company | 372455 |
| Blair Telephone Company | 371524 |
| Cambridge Telephone Company | 371526 |
| Citizens Telecommunications / Frontier NE | 371128 |
| Clarks Telecommunications Company | 371531 |
| Consolidated Telco, Inc. | 371530 |
| Consolidated Telecom, Inc. fmly Home Telephone and Eustis Telephone | 371562 371545 |
| Consolidated Telephone Company | 371532 |
| Cozad Telephone Co. | 371534 |
| Curtis Telephone Co. | 371536 |
| Dalton Telephone Co., Inc. | 371537 |
| Diller Telephone Co. | 371540 |
| Eastern Nebraska Telephone Co. | 371542 |
| Elsie Communications, Co. | 371518 |
| Glenwood Membership Corporation | 371553 |
| Golden West Telecommunications Coop | 391659 |
| Great Plains Communications | 371577 |
| Hamilton Telephone Co. | 371555 |
| Hartington Telecommunications Co. | 371556 |
| Hartman Telephone | 371557 |
| Hemingford Cooperative Telephone | 371558 |
| Henderson Cooperative Telephone | 371559 |
| Hershey Cooperative Telephone | 371561 |
| Hooper Telephone Company dba WesTel | 371563 |
| Huntel Cablevision dba Huntel Communications | 379016 |
| K & M Telephone Company | 371565 |
| Keystone-Arthur Telephone | 371567 |
| Mobius Communications, Co. | 379014 |
| Nebraska Central Telephone | 371574 |
| Nebraska Technology and Telecommunications | 379004 |

| | |
|---|--------|
| NE Colorado Cellular dba Viaero Wireless | 379008 |
| Northeast Nebraska Telephone | 371576 |
| Orbitcom, Inc. | 379009 |
| Pierce Telephone Co. | 371581 |
| Pinpoint Communications | 379003 |
| Pinpoint Wireless, Inc. | 379022 |
| Plainview Telephone | 371582 |
| Qwest Communications Corporation – Nebraska | 375143 |
| Rock County Telephone | 371586 |
| Sodtown Telephone | 371590 |
| Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. f/k/a Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company | 371591 |
| Stanton Telecom, Inc. | 371592 |
| Three River Telco | 371525 |
| Three River Communications, LLC | 379015 |
| United States Cellular Corporation (USCOC of Nebraska/Kansas) | 379019 |
| United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a CenturyLink | 371595 |
| Vivian Telephone | 391686 |
| Wauneta Telephone | 371597 |
| Windstream Nebraska, Inc. | 371568 |

Nebraska Public Service Commission

COMMISSIONERS:

ANNE C. BOYLE
ROD JOHNSON
FRANK E. LANDIS
TIM SCHRAM
GERALD L. VAP



300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
Post Office Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68509-4927
Website www.psc.state.ne.us
Phone (402) 471-3101
Fax (402) 471-0254

NEBRASKA CONSUMER HOTLINE:
1-800-526-0017

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
MICHAEL G. HYBL

Received & Inspected

SEP 27 2012

FCC Mail Room

September 25, 2012

CERTIFICATION

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Mike Hybl, Executive Director of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed is a true and correct copy of the original order made and entered in the proceeding docketed as Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order #26/NUSF-66, on the 25th day of September, 2012. The original order is filed and recorded in the official records of the Commission.

Please direct any questions concerning this order to Sue Vanicek, Director, at 402-471-3101.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska, this 25th day of September, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hybl", is written over a circular seal.

Mike Hybl
Executive Director

MH:bz

Enclosure

cc: Marlene Dortch, Federal Communications Commission, 445- 12th Street SW, Washington DC, 20554
Karen Majcher, Universal Service Administrative Co, 2000 L Street NW #200, Washington DC 20036
Nebraska ETCs Carriers



SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In the Matter of the Nebraska |) | APPLICATION NO. NUSF-25 |
| Public Service Commission, on |) | Progression Order No. 26 |
| its own motion, seeking to |) | |
| establish guidelines for the |) | Received & Inspected |
| purpose of certifying the use |) | |
| of federal universal service |) | SEP 27 2012 |
| support. |) | |
| |) | FCC Mail Room |
| |) | |
| In the Matter of the Nebraska |) | APPLICATION NO. NUSF-66 |
| Public Service Commission, on |) | |
| its own motion, seeking to |) | |
| establish guidelines for the |) | |
| purpose of certifying the use |) | |
| of state universal service |) | |
| support. |) | Entered: September 25, 2012 |

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

1. On May 15, 2007, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) established a detailed process for verifying whether all federal high-cost support was, in the preceding year, and would be in the next calendar year, used for the intended purpose pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; and whether all state high-cost support was and would be used for its intended purpose pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-324. See Application Nos. NUSF-25/NUSF-66, Progression Order #18 (May 15, 2007). Consistent with the Commission's findings all designated eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) and all Nebraska designated eligible telecommunications carriers (NETCs)¹ receiving high-cost support were required to file historical and prospective documentation describing their use of federal and state high-cost universal service support. These annual filings are due on June 1st of each year.

¹ The Commission designates ETCs as eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service fund support pursuant to the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Commission designates NETCs as eligible to receive state high-cost universal service fund support pursuant to the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act (NTUSF).

2. On November 18, 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued its Universal Service and Intercarrier Compensation Transformation Order (Transformation Order)² which, *inter alia*, modified the certification requirements for ETCs. Among the changes 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 requires state commissions, after conducting a detailed review of ETC's historical and prospective documentation describing the use of federal universal service support, must determine whether universal service support was used for its intended purpose in the preceding calendar year and will be used for its intended purpose in the following calendar year.

3. By June 1st of this year, each eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) and each Nebraska eligible telecommunications carrier (NETC) was required to file with the NTIPS Department an adequate description of how the high-cost funding support has been used and an adequate description of how high-cost support will be used during the coming year.

4. Upon completion of its review, the Commission finds that the following carriers adequately filed information demonstrating that they have used all federal high-cost support in the preceding calendar year, and will continue to use all federal high-cost universal service support in the coming year for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.314 (May 8, 2012) and WC Docket No. 10-90:

Allo Communications, LLC
Alltel Wireless³
Arapahoe Telephone Company dba ATC Communications
Arlington Telephone Company
Benkelman Telephone Company, Inc.

² See *In the Matter of Connect America Fund; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Lifeline and Link Up; Universal Service Reform-Mobility Fund*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 17663 (November 18, 2011) (Transformation Order).

³ Alltel Wireless filed documentation showing the use of high-cost support in the preceding year but not for the upcoming calendar year due to the anticipated phase-out of federal high-cost support. Alltel Wireless has been included in this Order for the purpose of certifying that its high-cost support was used in the preceding year for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services.

Blair Telephone Company
 Cambridge Telephone Company
 Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nebraska,
 Inc., aka Frontier
 Clarks Telecommunications Company
 Consolidated Telco, Inc.
 Consolidated Telecom, Inc.
 Consolidated Telephone Company
 Cozad Telephone Company
 Curtis Telephone Company, Inc.
 Dalton Telephone Company, Inc.
 Diller Telephone Company
 Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company
 Elsie Communications, Inc.
 Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation
 Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
 Great Plains Communications, Inc.
 Hamilton Telephone Company
 Hartington Telecommunications Company, Inc.
 Hartman Telephone Exchanges, Inc.
 Hemingford Cooperative Telephone Company
 Henderson Cooperative Telephone Company
 Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company
 Hooper Telephone Company dba WestTel Systems
 Huntel Cablevision dba Huntel Communications
 K & M Telephone Company, Inc.
 Keystone-Arthur Telephone Company
 Mobius Communications
 Nebraska Central Telephone Company
 Nebraska Technology and Telecommunications, Inc.
 NE Colorado Cellular d/b/a Viaero Wireless
 Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company
 Orbitcom, Inc.
 Pierce Telephone Company, Inc.
 Pinpoint Communications
 Pinpoint Wireless, Inc.⁴
 Plainview Telephone Company, Inc.
 Qwest Corporation
 Rock County Telephone Company
 Sodtown Telephone Company
 Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc.
 Stanton Telecom, Inc.

⁴ Pinpoint Wireless, Inc. was designated as an ETC in 2012. Accordingly, the Commission certifies Pinpoint Wireless, Inc. on the basis of the prospective use of high-cost support as provided in the approved application.

Application Nos. NUSF-25/NUSF-66

Page 4

Three River Telco
Three River Communications
United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a
CenturyLink
U.S. Cellular Corporation (USCC)
Vivian Telephone Company
Wauneta Telephone Company
Windstream Nebraska Inc.

5. Accordingly, the Commission will provide certification to the Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms and the FCC, that the above-listed carriers have used and will continue to use federal high-cost universal service support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and/or service for which the support is intended in accordance with § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended.

6. The Commission may continue to review the ETC/NETC filings on an ongoing basis. The Commission may modify its requirements or thresholds for certification. Therefore, the certification in this Order shall not be construed as precedent as to whether levels of investment or types of investment will be considered acceptable by the Commission in the future.

7. As such, the NTIPS Department should continue its review of the ETC/NETC filings and notify the carrier with any concerns with the June 2012 ETC/NETC verification filings. The Commission will give the carrier an opportunity for a hearing with respect to any concerns which would cause the Commission to conclude that an ETC's or NETC's high-cost certification should be de-certified or revoked.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Department certify to the Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms and the Federal Communications Commission, that the above-listed eligible telecommunications carriers have used and will continue to use in the coming year federal high-cost support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and/or service for which the support is intended in

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application Nos. NUSF-25/NUSF-66

Page 5

accordance with § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 25th day of September, 2012.

COMMISSION

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



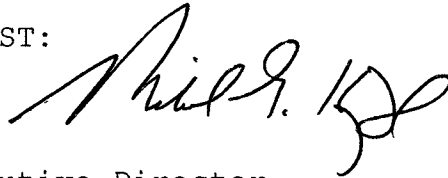
Vice Chairman



//s//Anne C. Boyle

//s//Frank E. Landis

ATTEST:



Executive Director

